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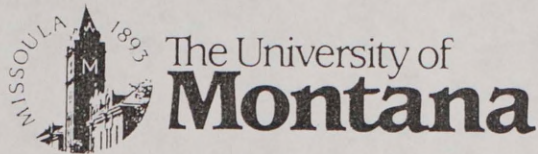
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NEWS RELEASE

April 24, 2002

Contact: Linda DeMinck, UM assistant science fair director, (406) 243-2866, lad@cs.umt.edu.

STUDENTS RAKE IN AWARDS DURING STATE SCIENCE FAIR

MISSOULA—

A record number of student scientists attended the 47th Montana Science Fair April 8-9 at The University of Montana. Nearly 770 students in grades six through 12 entered 658 exhibits during the event. The fair concluded with a ceremony where 190 special awards were presented.

The top two individual Grand Award winners and top team winners in Division I (grades nine through 12) received expense-paid trips to the INTEL International Science and Engineering Fair, which will be held May 12-18 in Louisville, Ky.

The two individual winners were Jessica Kaae of C.M. Russell High School in **Great Falls** and Josh Schwartzman of Big Sky High School in **Missoula**. Daniel Cox and Bryan Simons of North Toole County High School in **Sunburst** won the Grand Award for best team project.

Other Division I Grand Award winners who already received expense-paid trips to ISEF at one of Montana's regional fairs are Julia Powers of Big Sky High School, Alexandra Antonioli of **Butte** High School and Maria Schuster of **Wolf Point** Public Schools.

Besides the trip winners, Grand Awards were presented to students who took first place in their categories. These winners were Ryan Kolar and Cory Wilken, ninth-graders from

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Hobson Schools; Casey Moore and Alexsandra Greer, an eighth-grade team from Hellgate Middle School in **Missoula**; Lyle Cobb, an eighth-grader from **Cascade** School; Tyler Salisbury, an eighth-grader from Washington Middle School in Missoula; Nate Little, a seventh-grader from Cascade School; Emily Munday, a seventh-grade winner from East Middle School in **Butte**; Aaron Simpson, a sixth-grader from **Sun River** School; Rose Harris, a sixth-grade winner from St. Labre School in **Ashland**; and Wes Harkness, a sixth-grader from Cascade School.

The Missoula Exchange Club presented a scholarship to Katie Aschim of Sunburst's North Toole County High School. Powers and Kaae received UM Foundation scholarships. These awards were presented on the premise that these students would attend UM next fall.

North Toole County High School was named the overall outstanding high school for 2002 during the fair, while Cascade School and East Middle School in Butte tied for the honor of most outstanding junior high school. In addition to a variety of special awards, hundreds of exhibitors received gold, silver and bronze ribbons to acknowledge their achievements.

This year's science fair was sponsored by the UM Foundation Excellence Fund, President's Office, Academic Affairs, Administration and Finance, and Research and Development, as well as the Missoula Exchange Club.

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